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Glands of a very remarkable form are found in great numbers upon the inside of the pitcher, whose function it seems is to secrete the solvent or digestive fluid; others open in the inturned rim of the mouth, which are regarded by Dr. Hunt, their discoverer, as the only vegetable gland with a proper excretory duct.

Mr. U. C. Smith exhibited a living specimen of *Actinophrys sol.*

Mr. Ryder then remarked that he had recently seen a very curious structure in the epidermis of the skin of the soft part of a box tortoise, and indicated briefly the similarity of the horny dermal plates of this animal to those of the snakes. In continuation he observed that on making comparison of the neck vertebrae of the box tortoise with those of the great fossil armadilloes of South America, some remarkable and instructive similarities were noticed. Especially was this the case in regard to the hinge-like joint between the last vertebra of the neck and the first of the body. It indicated similarity of function, and was undoubtedly used by the armadillo to partially withdraw the head within the carapace as in the box tortoise, or at least to bring the head shield of the animal against the carapace or body shield in case of attack.

Dr. G. B. Dixon then called attention to a series of histological preparations by Dr. Carl Seiler which were referred to the conservator for examination and report.

On motion adjourned.

BOSTON SOCIETY OF NATURAL HISTORY.—February 6th. Prof. W. G. Farlow gave an account of recent researches on the development of lichens, and Dr. T. M. Brewer read some notes on the birds of New England.

Feb. 20th.—Mr. M. E. Wadsworth read some notes on the petrography of Quincy and Rockport, and Mr. C. S. Minot made a communication on the histology of the grasshopper (*Caloptenus*).

AMERICAN GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY, New York.—February 27th. The President, Chief-Justice Daly, delivered his annual address upon the Geographical work of the world in 1877.

APPALACHIAN MOUNTAIN CLUB, Boston.—January 9th. Mr. S. H. Scudder delivered his address as retiring president, entitled A Year of Exploration in North America.

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SCIENTIFIC SERIALS.¹

THE GEOGRAPHICAL MAGAZINE.—February. Language-map of the East Indies, II. Further India and the Indian Archipelago, by R. Cust. Memoirs of Hans Hendrik, the Greenland Eskimo,

¹ The contents of these journals are for the most part selected.

edited by H. Rink. The Island Tribe of Great Nicobar, by Fr. A. de Röepstorff.

THE GEOLOGICAL MAGAZINE.—January. Recent Progress in Palæontology, by A. Nicholson. American Surface Geology, III, by S. V. Wood.

February.—On the Preservation of Deposits under Till or Boulder Clay, by J. Geikie.

ZEITSCHRIFT FÜR WISSENSCHAFTLICHE ZOOLOGIE.—November 30. Rhizopod-studies, by E. Buck. Anatomy of the star fishes, by H. Ludwig. On the nauplius of the shrimps (*Peneus*), by F. Müller. The organ of smell of female Heliconid butterflies, by F. Müller. On the Natural History of Cestodes, by H. A. Pagenstecker.

January 22.—Contributions to a knowledge of the Flagellata, by O. Bütschli. On the lungs of *Birgus latro*, by C. Semper. The organs of copulation of the sharks, etc., by K. R. Petri. The brain of the alligator, by Rabl Rückhard.

JENAISCHE ZEITSCHRIFT FÜR NATURWISSENSCHAFT, Marz 20, 1877. The Physemaria, Gastræades of the present time, supplement to the Gastræa theory, by E. Hæckel. On the pencils of hair, felt-spots, and similar structures on the wings of male butterflies, by Fritz Müller. Contribution to the developmental History of the Lepidoptera, by B. Hatschek.

June 15.—On the structure and development of *Spirochona gemmipara* (an Infusorian), by R. Hertwig. Embryology of the Decapods, by P. Mayer.

November 3.—On *Leptodiscus medusoides*, a new Flagellate allied to *Noctiluca*. Studies on the Rhizopods, by R. Hertwig. On the Nervous System and Sense-Organs of the Medusæ, by O. and R. Hertwig.

THE QUARTERLY JOURNAL OF CONCHOLOGY—Nov. 1877 and Feb. 1878. Remarks on the Geographical Distribution of Terrestrial Mollusca, by C. P. Gloyne.

CANADIAN ENTOMOLOGIST—January. Notes on *Lycæna pseudargiolus* and its Larval History, by W. H. Edwards.

CANADIAN NATURALIST, viii, No. 6—Dec. 29. Notes on a few Dykes cutting Laurentian Rocks, more especially with reference to their microscopic structure, by B. J. Harrington. Notes on the Surface Geology of New Hampshire, by Warren Upham. Lower Carboniferous Fishes of New Brunswick. Note on a Fossil Seal from the Leda Clay of the Ottawa Valley, by J. W. Dawson.